

# Tulalip Housing Department News

September 2007

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## Front Page Housing News

**The Housing Department forms, policies and reports are now available on the web.** You can get to the web site through Tulalip Tribes Web Site.

**Forms:** To obtain a form please download an adobe acrobat reader. This soft ware will allow you to open up any of the forms at this site.

**Links:** The Resource House: "The resource database contains information on the community services individuals and communities need to sustain and improve their daily lives--health care and childcare, job training, education and recreation, retirement, disability and social service information. This Directory contains information on nonprofit and public health and human service programs and some for-profit programs such as housing. As in a library, information is logically organized according to a standard classification system known as the INFO-LINE Taxonomy."

## Message from the Manager

Greetings to all! I am the Manger of the Tulalip Tribes Housing Department. It's a very exciting time to be in the Housing Department. Currently we have most of the infrastructure in at Mission Highlands. We will start the construction of the 25 homes with Tax Credit dollars. We have 16 homes set aside for the Self Help Housing Program through Housing Hope. This program is for Low-income families who can meet the eligibility criteria. The participants can put in 30 hrs. Per week of what's called "sweat equity labor contribution". We need to get 6 - 8 families qualified as soon as possible. These families will work as a team building each others home. Housing Hope has a very Low Interest rates. So if you are interested come into the Housing Office and sign-up.

TTHD purchased a new garbage truck so now our garbage crew won't have to throw sacks of garbage over the rails of our 1 ton-truck. Our tenants will be getting one 96 gallon garbage can. So look forward to seeing our crew in their new garbage truck.

We will be putting new playground equipment and other upgrades in all of our housing sites. Soon we will be remodeling ten of our single family units in the Church site. These ten homes will be turned into duplexes an increase in ten more homes. The Silver Village we will be replacing defective siding and some of the roofs.

So it's been very exciting working in housing. I look forward to doing more positive things for our tribal housing community. If you have any ideas or suggestions, please call me at 360-651-4580. Thanks! Herman Williams Jr., TTHD Manager

### Les Parks, Maintenance Coordinator

Most of you know now that I am the newest Housing Maintenance Coordinator. I remain excited about the opportunities in front of us. We are embarking upon a new look for our developments and you are witnessing the beginning of a new trend in going the extra mile to ensure our developments look the best that they can be.

Of course, you have all seen the demolition of the old Log Cabin Housing Office and Maintenance Building up on the Quil Ceda Road. In its place, we are installing our first state of the art Playground. This new playground will be colorful and pleasing to the eye. It will have 5 foot sidewalks around the perimeter and down the centers of the area. There will be a beautiful grassy area that will become a gathering spot for picnics. We will have benches and picnic tables throughout the playground. For safety purposes the playground will be fenced-in with an 8 foot high fence abutting Quil Ceda Road and shorter fences around the rest of the perimeters. Parking areas for the visitors to the Playground will be provided. A Basketball court will be placed next to the grassy area. While lighting of the area is planned, it will not be installed for some time after the Playground opens.

We would like to NAME this Playground. Herman Williams Jr, Housing Manager will be developing a plan to appropriately name the Playground.

You may have seen the newest piece of equipment we have purchased. Our Kubota mini-excavator was purchased for multi-use. Initially, its operator, Lyle Reeves and his crew will be working this fall and winter to remove blackberry brush, nuisance trees and otherwise clean-up the perimeters of our properties. The goal is to remove all brush, re-grade the mess and clean it up to the degree that our mowers can get in this spring and maintain the areas to prevent any future growth of unwanted vegetation. It is a monumental task for Lyle and his crew but made much easier with the purchase of our excavator.

"It's a monumental task for Lyle and his crew but made much easier with the purchase of our excavator."

We will begin a Roof Moss Removal Program in a very short period of time. Pressure washing of the roofs is an absolute no-no as it deteriorates the roof by years each time it is done. (Of course, I found this out after I pressure washed my own roof three times). We will be removing the larger chunks of moss by hand and then treating the roofs with an environmentally-friendly solution that will kill the remaining moss. The key to the success of this program will be to treat the roofs every six-months. We will have moss free roofs finally. Our survey shows that 35% of our 260 homes in inventory have heavy growth of moss and another 50% have at least light moss on their roofs. A whopping 85% of our homes are plagued with moss problems.

We will soon be implementing a "FALL CLEAN-UP" Program, much the same as the Spring Clean Up. Dumpsters will be placed throughout the developments. The goal of course is to rid our yards and homes of unwanted debris that may otherwise not be brought to the Tribal Dump.

Much more work remains to be done. We endeavor to restore pride and confidence in our Housing Communities and we urge everyone to assist in what ever manner you can to keep our communities beautiful. Your comments and suggestions are certainly welcome!

We continue to strive to keep our homes in a state of good condition. Our crews are busy every day repairing and rehabilitating homes. Before winter sets in I will schedule the annual chimney cleaning.

## Housing Department Employee News

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*ALL GARBAGE NEEDS TO BE BAGGED AND IN A TRASH CAN. THE TRASH CAN NEED TO BE BY THE CURB SIDE FOR EASY PICK-UP NO LATER THAN 8:00AM.*

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Shirley "Dodie" Jones, Tenant Services Coordinator can be reached at 360-651-4584. Shirley is the supervisor of the Tenant Services Specialists and Housing Inspectors.

Housing Inspectors:

- ❖ Carrie Enick can be reached at 360-651-4831
- ❖ Jennifer Merrival can be reach at 360-651-4591

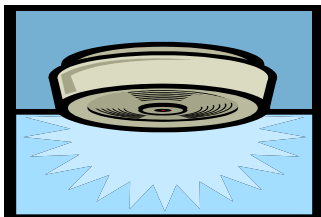
Tenant Services Specialists:

- ❖ Dorothy Jones can be reach at 360-651-4810
- ❖ Michelle Miller can be reach at 360-651-9308

## GARBAGE PICK-UP DAYS

| TUESDAYS                      | WEDNESDAY               | FRIDAY         |
|-------------------------------|-------------------------|----------------|
| Waterworks                    | Church Site             | Quil 1         |
| Turk Road                     | 28 <sup>th</sup> street | Quil 2         |
| Hermosa Point Scattered sites | Battle creek apartments | Quil Meadows   |
|                               | Y-site                  | John Sam North |
|                               |                         | John Sam South |

ALL GARBAGE (ashes, rubbish, garbage, and other waste) NEEDS TO BE BAGGED AND IN A TRASH CAN. THE TRASH CAN NEEDS TO BE BY THE CURB SIDE FOR EASY PICK-UP NO LATER THAN 8:00 AM.



*Change the batteries at least once a year.*

## Smoke Detectors Saves Lives

Be sure you have them in your home.

- ❖ Test detectors at least once a month. (Look for a test button.)
- ❖ Change the batteries at least once a year (and whenever the light or buzzer warns of a low battery).
- ❖ Clean detectors regularly. Keep them free of dust and grease.
- ❖ Never tamper with a detector.

### **PUD Low-Income & Senior Energy Assistance Available.**

The PUD has budgeted \$4.7 million over the next year to help senior citizens and low-income customers struggling with electric bills. The Utility's assistance programs are expected to help about 13,000 customers.

The 2007-2008 assistance programs, effective October 1, offer discounts of 20, 40 and 60 percent off normal rates. The threshold income level for seniors – those 62 years of age and older – is a combined household income of \$21,000 annually. Low-income participants can receive help if their household income is below 125 percent of the Federal established poverty level (\$25,000 for a family of four).

"Low-income customers need to re-apply each year to receive assistance under the program."

Low-income customers need to re-apply each year to receive assistance under the program. If seniors have not reapplied already in 2007, they need to re-apply in order to ensure the utility has the most current information. For an application or more information about the PUD's assistance programs, call 425-783-1000.

This article is from Snohomish County PUD's website.

### **Snohomish County Weatherization Program**

The Snohomish County Weatherization Program provides FREE weatherization assistance for low-income households in Snohomish County. Weather you own or rent, the Weatherization Program can install measures into your home which will help make it more energy efficient.

The program is funded by federal, state and local utilities resources and is managed by the Community Services Division of Snohomish County Human Services Department. All assistance is dependent upon the availability of funds.

Eligibility for the program is based on household income, household size, and type of dwelling. Who is Eligible? Owners and renters are both eligible to apply. Incomes from all household members hold not exceed our priority II guidelines. There is NO COST to owners or tenants. Landlord contributions are encouraged. Homes heated with every type of fuel may qualify. If you are a renter, your landlord will be required to agree to the weatherization services. We will contract your landlord to begin the process.

Types of Weatherization services: Insulation of ceilings, walls, floors, ducts and pipes; Air sealing; Appropriate venting/ventilation; broken glass replacement; hot water tank wraps and low-flow showerheads; Health and safety testing. Windows and doors are not routinely replaced due to funding restrictions. Every home may not qualify for every type of services.

Once you are eligible.....

When your application and household forms are completed and approved, you will be placed on a waiting list and be scheduled for an energy audit according to the following priorities: Disabled persons; Elderly persons, 60 years of age and older; Households with children under age 6; Households with children under age 18; 2 or more adults or 1 adult. Weatherization of your home is dependent on the availability of funding for your particular type of home and fuel source. There is no guarantee that your home will be weatherized, but once your application is approved, it is good for one year. The type of measures installed will vary from home to home.

If you have any questions about the weatherization Program, please contact Snohomish County Human Services, Weatherization Program, at 1800-562-4367

## Safety for Tenants

- Stay alert for hazards in and around your home at all times.
- Report any problems outside your control such as wiring in need of repair.
- Take care of problems within your control, such as dangerous clutter or worn electric cords.

### What you do makes a difference!

Home safety is a serious concern. Each year, home safety problems cause thousands of deaths and millions of injuries in this country. Fortunately, most safety problems can be prevented. You can keep yourself, your family, your guests and your neighbors safer, if you: Always think "safety first." Know how to eliminate hazards. Take action when you see possible dangers. Start today to make your home safer. You'll be glad you did.

**Store everything in a safe place!** Keep hallways clear. Check stairways and around builds, too. Never store things or put trash in these areas. Keeping these areas clear helps prevent falls, fires and other safety problems. Take out the trash often. Trash that piles up can be a health and fire hazard. Place trash in a trash bin or another designated place. Never throw hazardous materials (such as chemicals that can catch fire) in the trash. Be careful with potential poisons. These include cleaners and medicines. Store these in cabinets with childproof latches or locks. Follow other instructions on the labels for safe storage.

**Take care with appliances that burn fuel.** That includes, oil, propane, natural gas and wood. Get a carbon monoxide detector. Carbon monoxide (CO) is a potentially deadly gas. Fuel-burning appliances can give off CO if they are used incorrectly or are not working properly. If your CO detector goes off, assume it's an emergency follow. These steps: Operate the reset button. Do not wait to see if the alarm sounds again. Immediately seek fresh air – get out of the building as soon as possible. Call 911 from the nearest phone outside your home. Don't go back in until any problems have been corrected.

**Use electricity safely.** To prevent shocks, burns and fires, be careful with: Electrical Cords. Replace cracked or frayed cords right away. Keep cords out of walkways. Avoid using extension cords. If you must use an extension cord, choose one that can carry enough electric load for the appliance. (Check labels on the cord and appliance. Call the manufacturers if you have any question.)

**Fuses and circuit breakers.** If you're in a TTHD Rental Unit call 360-651-4588 and ask if you can change or replace blown fuses or reset circuit breakers. If so: Replace a fuse only with one of the same type and amperage. Before replacing a fuse or resetting a circuit breaker, turn off all lights and unplug all appliances on the circuit.



*You deserve a safe place to live.  
Start today to make your home safer.  
You'll be glad you did.*

## Safety for Tenants Continued

**Tell TTHD Maintenance if you have a fuse that blows often or a circuit breaker that trips often.** Either of these may signal a dangerous electrical problem. **Light Bulbs:** Always use bulbs of the recommended wattage and type. (Check for a label on the fixture.) When changing a bulb, turn off the switch and let the bulb cool. Keep your fingers out of the socket. **Outlets:** Use proper outlets for heavy-duty appliances. Check with the manufacturer if in doubt. Cover unused outlets with safety caps if children spend time in your home. Don't overload outlets. For example, plug only one heat source (such as a microwave or toaster oven) into each outlet. **Electrical Appliances:** Unplug appliances when not in use. Also unplug them when adjusting or cleaning them. Never use electrical appliances near water or if your hands are wet. Never put metal objects into appliances that are plugged in. Never open up an electrical appliance or try to repair it unless you are trained to do so.

**Help prevent Fires.** Here are some safety tips for: **Smoking materials.** Smoking is a safety and health hazard. If you smoke, get help to quit. Remember: Never smoke in bed or when you're sleepy. Teach children not to play with matches or other smoking materials. Keep these out of children's reach (locked up, if possible). Put ashes, matches and butts completely (using water) before throwing them away. Consider making a non-smoking rule for your home. **The Kitchen:** Stay close by when something's cooking on the stove. Avoid wearing clothes with loose sleeves when cooking. Keep cooking appliances clean. Never use the oven or stove to heat your home. **Room heaters:** Keep anything that can burn at least 3 feet from space heaters, fireplaces and wood stoves. Turn off and unplug space heaters before going to bed or going out. **Flammable Liquids:** Never keep gasoline, paint, paint thinners or other flammable products in your living area. To avoid storage, buy just enough for the job at hand. And be sure to store any gasoline in approved safety cans. Store any paint thinner, etc., in tightly closed containers.

## Upcoming Events

The Housing Department will be closed on The Tulalip Tribes Holidays.

|                       |            |
|-----------------------|------------|
| Veterans Day Observed | Nov 12     |
| Thanksgiving Day      | Nov 22     |
| Tulalip Day           | Nov 23     |
| Christmas Eve ½ Day   | Dec 24     |
| Christmas Day         | Dec 25     |
| New Years Eve ½ Day   | Dec 31     |
| New Years Day         | Jan 1 2008 |

### OCTOBER 2007

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| 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 |
| 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 |
| 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |    |

### NOVEMBER 2007

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| 4  | 5  | 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 |
| 11 | 12 | 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 |
| 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 |
| 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 |    |

### DECEMBER 2007

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| 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 | 20 | 21 | 22 |
| 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 | 27 | 28 | 29 |
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### JANUARY 2008

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| 6  | 7  | 8  | 9  | 10 | 11 | 12 |
| 13 | 14 | 15 | 16 | 17 | 18 | 19 |
| 20 | 21 | 22 | 23 | 24 | 25 | 26 |
| 27 | 28 | 29 | 30 | 31 |    |    |